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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION:

WORLD DECADE FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Report of the First (Economic) Committee

1. The First (Economic) Committee considered the question of the World Decade for Cultural Development (agenda item 8 (m)) at its 11th, 17th and 18th meetings, on 18 and 24 July 1991. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development (1988-1997) during the period 1990-1991 (A/46/160-E/1991/66).

2. At its 11th meeting, on 18 July, the Committee held a general discussion on the item and heard an introductory statement by the Chief of the Joint Planning and Inter-Organizational Cooperation Section of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat.

3. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia and Finland (on behalf of the Nordic countries) and the observer for Senegal. The representative of UNESCO also made a statement.

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4. At the 17th meeting, on 24 July, the observer for Ghana, 1/ on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.1/L.18) entitled "World Decade for Cultural Development".

5. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ahmed Amaziane (Morocco), informed the Committee of the results of the informal consultations held on the draft resolution and amended the fourth preambular paragraph thereof by deleting the words "with interest" after the word "Noting".

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as amended (see para. 7 below).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST (ECONOMIC) COMMITTEE

7. The First (Economic) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

World Decade for Cultural Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 41/187 of 8 December 1986, in which the Assembly proclaimed the period 1988-1997 the World Decade for Cultural Development,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 45/189 of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly invited the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to include specific proposals on the modalities of a mid-term review, taking into account the views of Governments, in the second biennial report on progress in the implementation of the World Decade for Cultural Development to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session through the Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the progress achieved and the efforts made by Member States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations to implement the Plan of Action for the Decade, and encouraging the continuation of such efforts,

Noting proposals that the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization jointly establish an international commission to prepare a report on culture and development,

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1/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development (1988-1997) during the period 1990-1991; 2/

2. Invites Governments, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations to accord greater priority to the cultural factors affecting development, particularly in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade; 3/

3. Expresses support for a global mid-term review of the World Decade for Cultural Development based upon the proposals outlined in paragraph 89 of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, on the understanding that the special debate on the Decade should take place at the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, to be held in 1994, and the work involving the regional commissions should be undertaken in 1993.

2/ A/46/160-E/1991/66.

3/ General Assembly resolution 45/199, annex.